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OFFICIAL

Applicant: ESAB AB
Serial Number: 09/402185
Attorney Docket: 5746
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ESAB AB

Serial Number: 09/402185

Filed: 9/28/99

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FRICTION STIR WELDING

Attorney Docket Number: 5746

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION
AND
PETITION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME

Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Alexandria, VA 22313

August 17, 2003

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the final Office Action mailed March 15, 2004 having a shortened statutory period that expired on June 15, 2004. Accompanying this response is a petition for a three-month extension of time. Accordingly this response is timely filed on Tuesday, August 17, 2004.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-2, 4-8, and 10-12 as shown in the section entitled Claim Amendments.